raised from the present 18% to 20%.

ii) The present limit of 125% on past performance allotments (PPE) and MEE allotments taken together in respect of MEE allotments has removed.

iii) The maximum number of country/category combination an exporter may opt under MEE System has been reduced from 15 to 10.

iv) Reservation of 75% Quota under Non-Quota Exporter Entitlement (NQE) system for thrust countries has been abolished. Base period under this system has been made at par with PEE system. The allocation in this system has been raised from the present 10% to 18% including 2% reservation exclusively for Handloom garments.

Supply of Woollen or Jute Blankets to Weaker sections at subsidised Rates

351. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to manufacture woollen or jute blankets for the weaker sections and make them available at subsidised rates through consumer cooperatives; and

(b) if so, the price fixed for these blankets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Woollen blankets are covered under the Janata Scheme for supply to weaker sections at subsidised rates. These blankets are also supplied through consumers cooperatives.

(b) The maximum price fixed by Government of India for 60" x 90" blankets is Rs. 50/-.

[*English*]

International Bus Services between Calcutta-Dhaka-Varanasi-Kathmandu

352. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to launch internationai bus services between Calcutta Dhaka Varanasi Kathmandu as a beginning of SAARC Cooperation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

NTC Mills in Bombay

353. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of textile mills in Bombay taken by the Government since October, 1983 and now run by National Textile Corporation (South Maharashtra) ;

(b) whether a number of permanent workers have still not been absorbed;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether such unabsorbed workers

have been paid retrenchment compensation;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The names of 13 textile mills located in Bombay taken over by the Central Government in October,1983 are given below:-

1. Eliphinstone Spinning & Weaving Mills;
2. Finlay Mills;
3. Gold Mohur Mills;
4. Jam manufacturing Mills;
5. Kohinoor Mills No. 1;
6. Kohinoor Mills No. 2;
7. Kohinoor Mills No. 3;
8. New City of Bombay manufacturing Mills;
9. Podar Mills;
10. Podar Mills (Process House)
11. Shree Madhusudan Mills;
12. Shree Sitaram Mills; and
13. Tata Mills.

(b) and (c). Consequent upon the takeover of these 13 mills by the Central Government, re-deployment of workers of these mills was considered keeping in view the optional utilisation of workable machines. In this process, as on date, 5,288 employees could not be provided work.

(d) to (f). An amount of Rs. 1088.27 lakhs has been paid as gratuity and other terminal benefits to 10,002 employees who tendered their resignations. 5,288 employees who have gone to Court or did not submit their resignations were not paid gratuity/ terminal benefits.

The issue of un-absorbed employees is pending before the Supreme Court and hence is sub-judice.

Closed Textile Mills in Bombay

354. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the textile mills in Bombay which continue to be closed since 1985.

(b) the number of workers rendered jobless as a result thereof; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to restart these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The following four cotton/Man Made Fibre Textile Mills have been closed in Bombay since 1985.

Name of the Mill	Date of closure
1. Kamala Mills Ltd.	7.11.1988
2. Modern Mills Ltd.	17.03.1987
3. New Great Eastern Spg. & Wvg. Co. Ltd.	13.03.1987
4. Raghuvanshi Mills Ltd.	25.02.1989

(b) 8202 workers have been rendered jobless.

(c) Out of the four mills, three were examined by the Nodal Agency constituted in pursuance of the Textile Policy,1985 to evolve and manage rehabilitation packages for viable textile mills. However, the nodal agency found only one mill i.e. Ranghuvanshi Mills as viable while the other two namely Modern and Kamala Mills were found to be non-viable. Even though Raghuvanshi Mills was found viable by Nodal Agency, subsequently BIFR had to issue prima-facie winding up notice. Attempt was also made to